



## Mary Durbin

September 16, 1914 - December 26, 2008

Mary (Truitt) Durbin was born on September 16, 1914 in Stonewall, Oklahoma to Wayne Truitt and Minnie Rebecca (Gresham) Truitt, and she passed from this life on December 26, 2008 at her home in Lindsay, Oklahoma.

Mary was married to J.W. Durbin on December 8, 1935 in Ada, Oklahoma . They eventually made their home in Lindsay, Oklahoma. Mary and J.W. had two sons, Harrison and Don. Mrs. Durbin was a high school teacher at Lindsay High School teaching English, Advanced Composition, and English History. She then became a school counselor at Lindsay High School. Mrs. Durbin retired after teaching for thirty years. Mary was a member of the First Baptist Church of Lindsay, Oklahoma, and taught Sunday School there. She was also a member of Kappa Kappa Iota, Lindsay China Painters, Lindsay Sewing Club, the local bridge clubs, the National Education Association and Garvin County Retired Educators.

Mrs. Durbin is survived by her son Harrison Durbin and wife Mavis of Oil City, Pennsylvania and her grandchildren; Emily Durbin and husband Roy Iggulden of Stoughton, Massachusetts and Stacy Cresswell and husband John of Chicago, Illinois, and her great-grandchildren; Katherine, Audrey and Victoria Cresswell of Chicago, Illinois. Mary is also survived by three nieces; Mary Sue Worrell and husband Sonny of Stonewall, Oklahoma, Dixie Jean Wheaton and husband Lee of Mounds, Oklahoma, and Patty Goldberg of California and one

close great-niece, Kelly Reynolds of Stonewall, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Durbin was preceded in death by her husband J.W. Durbin who passed on June 8, 1981. Also preceding Mary in death were both her parents, one son, Don Durbin, one grandson, Michael Durbin, one great-grandson, Samuel Cresswell, three sisters; Opal Slocum, Peggy Thomas and Nell Shaw and two brothers; Charles Truitt and Dick Truitt .

Graveside services for Mrs. Durbin are set for 10:00 a.m. Friday, January 2, 2008 at Highland Cemetery in Stonewall, Oklahoma with Terry Brooks officiating. Services are under the direction of B.G. Boydston Funeral Home of Lindsay, Oklahoma. The family would like to suggest that those wishing to honor Mrs. Durbin make a memorial contribution to the First Baptist Church of Lindsay, Oklahoma or to a charity of their choice. Condolences for the family may be made online at [www.boydstonfuneralhome.com](http://www.boydstonfuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall

GA

“ (Tribute Text Not Available)

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**gayla** - January 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ *Harrison, many years have come & gone since the days at Lindsay Highschool..Guess I never really appreciated her knowledge of English until I went out into the working world & realized that not all people had the privilege of being taught by the best. I am sorry to learn of her passing, but I know she is smiling down on her family and the others she inspired over the years. May God bless and keep all of the family. Hope to see you Harrison at our 50th reunion in Lindsay sometime in July*

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**Linda (Banks) Renick** - January 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GG

“ *I graduated in 1961 and I still think about Mrs. Durbin and Mrs. Moore. . We, the class of '61 will always remember her as our class sponsor. It was so nice that she and Mrs. Moore attended one of our reunions. Lots of memories come to mind and I know that she will be remembered. May these memories comfort you in times of sadness. Just think about her and smile. She would like that.*

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**Glenda Simpson Goodson** - January 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ Harrison, Mavis, Stacy, and Emily, Mary was such a remarkable lady. I had a great respect, love and admiration for her. I became acquainted with her in 1995. She was a real soldier of Christ, and she is with Him now, praise God! Mary was a great help to me while I was in college. She proofed my English papers for me and taught me a lot about writing. I wrote a story about Mary and what an amazing woman she was considering all she endured throughout her life. In the short time I knew her she became very dear to me. Her family, and especially you two girls, were her pride and joy. She spoke of you all every time I stopped by to visit with her. She was an inspiration to me and a living testimony of the power of faith in God and positive thinking. I regret that I neglected going to see her before Christmas as I'd planned to. She was my friend and I will miss her.

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**Gayla Mosteller** - January 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ Harrison & family: So sorry to hear about the passing of your mother. Her legacy lives on in all of us that she taught.

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**Roy Goldston** - January 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Dear Harrison, <br><br>It really makes me sad to hear of your mother passing but for every child that passed through her classes, she will always be a part of our lives.

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**bill goldston** - January 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Harrison and Family,  
Was sad to hear of Mrs. Durbin's passing. She was a strong, courageous woman. She never complained even though I could see her growing weaker each week. Her faith was strong and she said she was waiting on the Lord's call. I feel truly blessed to have known such a beautiful, spiritual woman that shared her love of the Lord.

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**Carolyn Malena-Franklin** - January 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ Evidently, I had a great respect for Mrs. Durbin. She was the only teacher I would not have given any flak! (She wouldn't have tolerated it anyway.) It was after I was out of school and had matured a little that I discovered what a truly dedicated, wonderful, wonderful person she was. I'm saddened at her passing.

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**Gwen (Chamberlain) Hewitt** - January 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Harrison,  
I am so sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. She was a special lady. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Joy Eastwood** - January 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

NG

“ I am so sorry to hear of Mrs. Durbin's death. I think of her almost daily, certainly anytime I am struggling to put my thoughts into words. Part of her legacy was that somehow, in the way she taught composition she also taught us about compassion and how to live our lives thoughtfully, with care for others. I am grateful for having been touched by her grace.

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**Nancy Gay** - January 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ I am so very sorry to hear of Mrs. Durbin's passing. She was the best teacher I ever had. I'm sure she had a huge impact on many. May your memories and God give you comfort.

Phyllis Trout Phillips - December 31, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Many years after graduation, I saw Mrs. Durbin (yes, Mrs. Durbin. Some people you respect too much to ever use their first names) I was able to tell her what a wonderful influence she had been to me, she giggled a little and thanked me, then turned and said that it was her job and her pleasure. What a wonderful way to see your life's work. She truly was special.

Bearleen (Marsh) Woolley - December 30, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ I often speak to others about Mrs. Durbin, the person who showed me true excellence in teaching. She taught us so much more than English Composition. Her influence will continue through all of us who were blessed to know her.

Julia Bunker - December 30, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Harrison, Mavis, Emily & Stacey  
Words cannot express enough of our feelings for Aunt Mary.  
Just know that we love you guys and are all ways here for you.  
See you soon,  
love ya,  
Cissy, Gene & Cacee Sue

Beverly (Cissy) Worrell-Taulman - December 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM

HR

“ We are so sorry about the loss of your mom. She was such a special lady and was always so cheerful. Will miss seeing her.

Homer & Bonnie Rinehart - December 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ Mrs. Durbin was a wonderful teacher. She had a powerful influence on my life as my teacher and my friend. I have always admired her gentle spirit and quick wit. May God be with the family.

Janet Janousek - December 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ I was very sad to learn of Mrs. Durbin's passing. It is so hard to lose such a great teacher and sponsor. God has a special place for people like her.

Buddy Sanford - December 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM

NM

“ I was so sorry to read of Mrs' Durbin's passing. She was such a wonderful teacher and counselor in the Lindsay Schools. Many people are better for the fine teachers at Lindsay including Mrs. Durbin. I saw her last when our Mother died in April. It is a sad time for all when our mothers pass on. She was such a nice neighbor for my mother.

Neosha Mackey - December 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ So sorry to hear of Mrs. Durbin's passing. She has been a good fixture here in Lindsay for many years. She was not only a good teacher, but a very good person. She was a dear friend to our Mother. May God be with you during this time of grief.

Bill Clements, Jr - December 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ It was just last week that I was talking to a friend about the best teacher I ever had and it was Mary Durbin. Harrison, I am so very sorry to her of you mom's death. As you know I spent many an hour at your home when I was growing up. I also had the pleasure years later, of sharing several Christmas dinners with Mary and my mom. They were both very special ladies who are now together again. My thoughts and prayers will be with you. May God be with you and your family.

Ed Moore - December 29, 2008 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ Harrison and Mavis, Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.

Patricia Pangborn - December 28, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ Mrs Durbin's legacy will live on forever  
with the many lives she touched during her years as a wonderful teacher.  
She became my friend in my adult years and she will be missed. God bless and comfort you.

Mickey & Linda Newby - December 28, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Harrison, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. We lived next door to J W and Mary when I taught school in Lindsay in the early 70's. Mary and J W were really good to us as neighbors and friends. Mike and Joan Ganus, Norman, OK

Mike and Joan Ganus - December 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM

LT

“ *Harrison and family - - I am so sorry to hear of Mrs. Durbin's passing. She was one of the best teachers I ever had, and I am sad to know that another part of our past is gone from Lindsay. May God comfort all of you, her family.*

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**Louanne (Ward) Trueblood** - December 27, 2008 at 12:00 AM